

Appl. No. 10/777,266  
Resp. dated 1/18/2008  
Reply to Office Action of 10/18/2008

ELI006-237/IP-00496-2004

### Remarks

Applicants acknowledge with thanks the Examiner's determination of allowability of claims 2-7, 9-12 and 19-24 if rewritten to include all the features of the base claims and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claims 1, 8 and 18 to include the features of claims 2, 9 and 19 respectively. Claims 2, 9 and 19 have been cancelled, and the associated dependencies of claims 3, 4, 10, 20 and 21 have been amended.

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed or rendered moot. It is believed that a complete response has been made to all of the outstanding rejections, and Applicant therefore respectfully requests that this amendment be entered.

No fees or extensions of time are believed to be due in connection with this filing. However, please consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 23-1660.

Reconsideration and reexamination of the application is respectfully requested in view of the referenced amendments. It is respectfully submitted that the claims are allowable over the prior art of record. Early notification of allowability is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 18, 2008

WHIRLPOOL PATENTS COMPANY  
500 Renaissance Drive – Ste. 102 MD750  
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085

  
Michael D. Lafrenz, Reg. No. 56,908  
Telephone (269) 923-7441